

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Reissue Declaration was objected to as being defective. In particular, the Office Action contends that the non-initialed and non-dated alteration of the resident's address of the second listed inventor renders the Declaration defective, referring to 37 C.F.R. §1.52(c). Applicants respectfully submit that this contention is inaccurate. Section 1.52(c) provides that alterations "should be dated and initialed or signed by the Applicant on the same sheet of paper." Thus, according to this section, the Applicant's initials and the date are not required if the Applicant's signature appears on the same sheet of paper. In the present situation, the inventor's signature indeed appears on the same sheet, and Applicants respectfully submit that further initials and date are not required.

The Office Action further provides that "the forthcoming declaration should also meet paragraphs 1 and 2 of the final Office Action mailed 10/27/04." As discussed in the response filed May 19, 2005, the Reissue Declaration addresses the objections in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the October 27, 2004 Office Action.

Finally, attached hereto is a copy of the claims currently pending in the case with claim identifiers for each claim.

Applicants thus respectfully submit that the Reissue Declaration is proper and that the application is in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are patentable over the art of record and that the application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

PLATE et al.
Appl. No. 09/335,377
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Prompt passage to issuance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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